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**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AFFAIRS AND VETERANS SERVICES**

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
STATE MILITARY RESERVATION
4 PEMBROKE ROAD
CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03301-5652

David J. Mikolaities, Major General
The Adjutant General

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Nicole Desilets-Bixler
Deputy Adjutant General

April 28, 2025

Her Excellency, Governor Kelly A. Ayotte
and the Honorable Council
State House
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

REQUESTED ACTION

Authorize the Department of Military Affairs and Veterans Services, Division of Community Based Military Programs to hold an organized meeting on June 25, 2025, at the Puritan Backroom Conference & Event Center (vendor code #154221), Manchester, NH in the amount not to exceed \$5,313.14 for the purpose of sponsoring a conference entitled "2025 Ending Veteran Homelessness in New Hampshire Annual Summit" effective upon Governor and Council approval through June 30, 2025. **100% General Funds.**

Funds are available in the following account for Fiscal Year 2025.

	<u>FY 2025</u>
02-12-12-120010-32520000-067-500557 – Contracts for Program Services	\$5,313.14

EXPLANATION

The purpose of this event is to convene leaders and subject matter experts from the Ending Veteran Homelessness community of practice (Federal, State, regional, municipal, service and support organizations, non-profit organizations, and policy makers) along with landlords, developers, and other key stakeholders to raise awareness, develop advocacy, shape conditions and identify approaches for operationalizing sustainable programs and initiatives for community-based systems to quickly house a Veteran should they experience homelessness or be at risk of experiencing homelessness and transition to permanent housing stability and the broader fight to end Veteran homelessness in the granite state.

The event will be hosted and catered by the Puritan Backroom at their Conference and Event Center in Manchester, NH. The price of the contract is based on event space capacity, audio/visual package to include LCD Projector (with remote slide advancer), screen, three wireless microphones and podium, and catered buffet for a maximum of 100 attendees.

The Department posted Request for Proposal DMAVS 2025-04, 2025 Ending Veteran Homelessness in New Hampshire Annual Summit Conference Facility and Food Request for Proposals, to solicit for these services with closing date of March 26, 2025. No vendors responded to the department's request. Subsequently, the department contacted three vendors in the Concord, Manchester, and Nashua areas with the capability to host and cater for the event. Puritan Backroom provided the lowest quoted price for the requested services.

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Affordable and available housing is one of the top challenges across the state, and at any given time, there are approximately 140 Veterans reported as homeless across the Granite State. The summit will work to identify approaches and solutions focused on ending Veteran homelessness in New Hampshire utilizing the top challenges, gaps, and needs by the Ending Veteran Homelessness in NH Veterans Steering Committee and bi-weekly case conferencing stakeholders and informed by the Ending Veterans in New Hampshire annual working group to create approaches and solutions toward effectively ending Veteran homelessness in New Hampshire. Should the Governor and Council not authorize this request, the Department will miss the opportunity to operationalize programs and initiatives supporting permanently housing NH's homeless Veterans. If permanent housing solutions are not identified and implemented, homeless Veterans will continue to experience serious medical problems, mental health and substance abuse disorders, premature mortality, frequent hospitalizations, social isolation and incarceration as result of, or as exacerbated by their housing instability.

This contract has been approved for form, substance, and execution by the Attorney General's Office.

Respectfully submitted,

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DAVID J. MIKOLAITIES
Major General, NH National Guard
The Adjutant General

Name of Project: Ending Veteran Homelessness in New Hampshire Annual Summit 2025

Number of Responses to RFQ: 3

<u>vendor</u>	<u>address</u>	<u>quote 75 people</u>	<u>quote 100 people</u>
Puritan Conference and Event Center	245 Hooksett Road, Manchester, NH	\$4,127.73	\$5,313.14
Grappone Conference Center	70 Constitution Avenue, Concord, NH	\$6,516.44	\$8,172.59
The Event Center at Courtyard Marriott Nashua	2200 Southwood Drive, Nashua, NH	\$7,418.17	\$9,483.68

These three vendors were contacted due to their ability to provide adequate space and catering for the event in combination with their proximity to the State Military Reservation (SMR). The resulting contract was awarded to Puritan Conference & Event Center as they offered the requisite services at the lowest price within 20 miles of the SMR.

COST BREAKDOWN

Food & Beverage	\$3,804.00
Audio Visual Equipment	\$200.00
Rental Space	\$225.00
Service Charges	\$760.80
Taxes	\$323.34
Total	\$5,313.14



**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AFFAIRS AND VETERANS SERVICES**

DIVISION OF COMMUNITY BASED MILITARY PROGRAMS

STATE MILITARY RESERVATION
1 MINUTEMAN WAY
CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03301-5652

David J. Mikolaities, Major General
The Adjutant General

Phone: 603-225-1360

Nicole Desilets-Bixler
Deputy Adjutant General

Organized Event Title: 2025 Ending Veteran Homelessness in New Hampshire Annual Summit

Date: June 25, 2025 (Tentative pending G&C approval)

Location: Puritan Conference and Event Center, 245 Hooksett Road, Manchester, NH 03104

Host: NH Department of Military Affairs and Veterans Services

Target Audience: Representatives and key stakeholders from the *Ending Veteran Homelessness in New Hampshire* community of practice to include Federal, State, regional, municipal, service and support organizations, non-profit organizations, landlords, developers, and policy makers.

Purpose of Event: The purpose of this event is to convene leaders and subject matter experts from the *Ending Veteran Homelessness in NH* community of practice along with landlords, developers, and other key stakeholders to raise awareness, develop advocacy, shape conditions and identify approaches for operationalizing sustainable programs to quickly house a Veteran should they experience homelessness or be at risk of experiencing homelessness and transition to permanent housing stability and the broader fight to end Veteran homelessness in the granite state.

Background: The New Hampshire Department of Military Affairs and Veterans Services, Division of Community Based Programs is legislatively mandated to collaborate, coordinate, and communicate with military and civilian provider groups in the delivery of services to New Hampshire veterans and military service members and their families. The Department, in conjunction with providers of services for veterans experiencing homelessness in New Hampshire shall establish programming to end veterans homelessness sharing data between all relevant veterans' service providers, state agencies, nonprofit organizations, and VA medical centers, and increase coordination and streamline processes for appropriate veterans' housing placements.

Budget: The attached estimate includes all costs associated with this event.

Ending Veteran Homelessness in New Hampshire Project



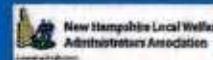
NH DMAVS



NH DHHS



NH DMAVS



Manchester



Opening:

- 0830: Coffee and Networking
- 0900: **Welcome, Admin and Summit Intent**
- 0915: **Posting of the Colors and Invocation**
- 0930: Opening remarks and **"call to action"**
 - The NH Adjutant General/Commissioner NH DMAVS
 - Commissioner, DHHS

Operational and Strategic Environments: Veterans, Federal, and State Context

- 0945: NH Veteran Demographics, Ending Veteran Homelessness in NH Project, 2024 Year in Review Analytics, Case Conferencing Working Group mapping
- 1015: NH Council on Housing Stability – NH Strategy,...
- 1030: Federal programs and Initiatives...
- 1045: Comfort Break
- 1100: **Housing and Homelessness Situation in NH Panel: Challenges and Solutions** – Initial thoughts on panel members...
 - NH Housing Situation: Rob Dapice, Executive Director/CEO NH Housing
 - State of play from landlord perspective: Nick Normal, Director, Legislative Affairs Apartment Association of NH or Recommendation from Mayor Ruais for one of their Landlord Partners...
 - State of play from developer perspective: Housing Action NH, Nick Taylor, Executive Director
 - Transformational approaches and policy changes, Jen Cyz, Community Development Finance Authority... NH Council on Housing Stability.
 - U.S. VA approaches and resources: Anthony Love, U.S. VA Regional Homeless Public Education
 - HUD approaches and resources: Juanita Mathis, New England Coordinator, HUD
 - NH DHHS approaches and resources: Melissa Hatfield, Chief, Bureau of Homeless Services, NH DHHS
 - Municipalities Across the State: Todd Marsh, president, NH Welfare Association
 - Non-Profit perspective (Harbor Care? Franklin Military and Veterans Campus?,...)
- 1215: Lunch
- 1315: **Mayoral Best Practices Panel: on Tackling the Housing Challenge**
- 1415: Comfort Break
- 1430: Table time: **An azimuth check:** 1) **Re-Validate 2024** Summit Recommended Approaches and solutions and 2) **Looking ahead to State FY26** challenges & potential solutions
- 1515: Closing Comments and Way Ahead

DRAFT 2025 Ending Veteran Homelessness in NH Annual Summit

Level setting; validating current azimuth and; identification of best practices, approaches and solutions for the way ahead to contribute to effectively ending Veteran homelessness in NH